CLAIMS:

1. A restraint means adapted to restrict the relative movement between a first person and a second person, the restraint means comprising:

a body adapted to be removably attached to the first person;

a rotatable drum located on the body;

a cable having a first end connected to the drum and a second end having an attachment means thereon, the attachment means being adapted to be secured to the second person; and

a locking means adapted to selectively lock the rotating drum so as to prevent rotation thereof.

2. The restraint means of Claim 1, wherein the locking means comprises a trigger pivotably attached to the body and adapted to selectively engage the rotating drum.

3. The restraint means of Claim 2, wherein the drum has a rotational axis and a face of the drum includes at least one first detent portion extending radially outwardly from the rotational axis, and the trigger includes at least one first pawl adapted to engage the first detent portion when the trigger is operated.

4. The restraint means of either Claim 2 or Claim 3, wherein the trigger is provided with a means for disengaging from the drum.

5. The restraint means of Claim 4, wherein the disengagement means is a biasing means adapted to bias the trigger away from the drum.

6. The restraint means of Claim 4, wherein the disengagement means is a button formed on the trigger for manual operation thereof.

7. The restraint means of any of Claims 2 to 6, wherein the trigger is provided with a projecting portion, wherein a portion of the cable is threaded around the projecting portion such that a predetermined force applied to the cable will bring the trigger into engagement with the drum.

8. The restraint means of Claim 7, wherein the trigger has a longitudinally extending channel and the projecting portion is a bar extending laterally across the channel.

9. The restraint means of Claim 1, wherein the locking means comprises:

at least one detent portion provided on the body adjacent the circumference of the drum and extending radially inwardly towards the drum;

at least one pawl member pivotably attached to a face of the drum and adapted to engage the detent portion of the body; and

a biasing means adapted to bias the pawl member towards the rotational axis of the drum.

10. The restraint means of any of Claims 2 to 6, wherein the locking means further comprises:

at least one second detent portion provided on the body adjacent the circumference of the drum and extending radially inwardly towards the drum;

at least one second pawl member pivotably attached to a face of the drum and adapted to engage the second detent portion of the body; and

a biasing means adapted to bias the second pawl member towards the rotational axis of the drum.

11. The restraint means of Claim 10, wherein the locking means further includes an abutment member positioned on the face of the drum between the second pawl member and the circumference of the drum face, the abutment member limiting the radially outward movement of the second pawl.

12. The restraint means of any of Claims 2 to 6, wherein the locking means further comprises:

a plurality of second detent portions provided on the body adjacent the circumference of the drum and extending radially inwardly towards the drum;

a pair of second pawl members pivotably attached to a face of the drum at substantially diametrically opposite locations, and adapted to engage the plurality of second detent portions of the body; and

each second pawl member having a biasing means adapted to bias the second pawl member towards the rotational axis of the drum.

13. The restraint means of Claim 12, wherein the locking means further includes a pair of abutment members, each abutment member positioned on the face of the drum between a respective second pawl member and the circumference of the drum face, the abutment members limiting the radially outward movement of the respective second pawls.

14. The restraint means of any preceding claim, wherein the drum includes a biasing means adapted to apply a substantially constant recoil force to the drum in a first rotational direction.

15. The restraint means of any preceding claim, wherein the body and attachment means are adapted such that the attachment means can be located on the body when not in use.

16. The restraint means of any preceding claim, wherein the attachment means comprises a cover member having a recess in which the second end of the cable is attached.

17. The restraint means of Claim 16, wherein the attachment means further comprises a belt adapted to be fitted about the second person, the belt having a catch adjacent one end thereof and a catch housing adjacent the opposite end thereof, the catch housing being adapted to receive both the catch and the cover member thereon.

18. The restraint means of Claim 17, wherein the cover member substantially covers the catch housing when received thereon, thereby preventing direct access to the catch and catch housing.

19. The restraint means of any preceding claim, wherein the second person is a child and the restraint means is a child restraint means.

20. The restraint means of any of Claims 1 to 18, wherein the second person is an animal and the restraint means is an animal restraint means.